

Uniform Change Summary

Over the past several years there have been a number of changes to the CAP uniforms and wear policies outlined in CAPM 39-1 dated 1 May 1996. Listed below is a summary of the changes/additions that have been approved and implemented.

Patches/Badges/Devices

- **Specialty badges** – specialty badges in three levels were approved for the remaining specialty tracks including personnel, historian, public affairs, operations, finance, administration, IG, etc. Badges are worn on the pocket in the same place as the ES, Safety and Cadet Programs badges. (NEC May 00 and NB Mar 03)
- **National Board Badge** – approved for wear on the pocket the same as the NEC badge (NB Aug 00)
- **AFRCC Search Mission Coordinator Course & Inland SAR course patches** authorized as optional right shoulder patches on BDUs, field and utility uniforms and flight suits (NEC Nov 97)
- **Cadet Orientation Pilots Patch** authorized as optional right shoulder patch on BDUS, field and utility uniforms and flight suits (NEC, May 98)
- **Hawk Mountain Patch** authorized as a cadet special activity patch on right shoulder of BDUS, field and utility uniforms and flight suits (NB Aug 01)
- **New CAP Command Style patch** replaces round seal patch on flight suits and utility uniform (NEC, May 03). Mandatory wear date 31 March 04.

CAP Distinctive Uniform Changes

- **Dress Boots** authorized for wear by women with blazer combination. Must be plain black and if worn with skirt, transition to pumps in work place (NB Feb 99)
- **AF Cardigan Sweater** approve for wear with aviator shirt. Grade worn on the gray epaulet sleeve, wing patch not required. (NB, Feb 99)
- **CAP Maroon tie** eliminated (NEC Nov 99)
- **AF blue tie or CAP blue tie** authorized with aviator shirt only (NEC Nov 99)
- **Aviator shirt combination with Black Blazer Nametag** eliminated (NB Mar 01)
- **White golf shirt** eliminated (NB Mar 01)
- **Ultramarine blue golf shirt** replaced with dark blue golf shirt (NB Aug 01)
- **Dark blue field uniform and utility uniform** approved (NB Aug 01) Wear instructions attached
- **Ultramarine blue jumpsuit** eliminated (NB Aug 01) Phase out date extended to 31 Dec 03 (NEC Nov 02)
- **Dark Blue CAP baseball cap** will replace ultramarine blue cap (NB Aug 01)
- **CAP ribbons** authorized for wear on aviator shirt combination (NB Mar 02)

AF-style Uniforms

- **Mess Dress** authorized for senior member NCOs (NB, Mar 01)
- **Gray embroidered epaulets** approved for Senior Member NCO wear on AF light blue shirt and service coat (NB Mar 01)
- **Wear of BDUs & AF style flight suits** by members not meeting weight and grooming standards eliminated (NB, Aug 01)
- **Specific Honor Guard uniform** approved (NB, Feb 00) See attached.



NOTES:

1. Grade Insignia: Senior members will wear regular embroidered grade insignia on ultramarine blue background centered horizontally on top of each shoulder with bottom edge of insignia placed 1/2-inch from shoulder seam. Cadet NCOs and Airmen will wear the metal chevrons on both sides of collar. Cadet officers will wear the metal miniature officer grade insignia on the both sides of the collar. NOTE: Cloth collar devices are not authorized for cadets.
2. Leather Name Patch: Patch will be centered on left breast above pocket. Will include name, grade, and aeronautical rating. Cloth name patch is not authorized.
3. CAP Seal: A cloth CAP seal will be worn on right breast directly opposite the leather name patch.
4. Optional Breast Patch: Embroidered Emergency Services patch may be worn on the right breast pocket or corresponding position.
5. Optional Shoulder Patch: Worn centered 1/2-inch below shoulder seam on right sleeve. Member may choose one of the authorized patches for the right shoulder (see Chapter 6), may be wing or region shoulder patch.
6. Shoulder Patch: A cloth American Flag Emblem with gold border, 2" x 3 1/2", on left shoulder, 1/2-inch below the shoulder seam.
7. White t-shirts and any style plain black shoe or boot may be worn.
8. Headgear is not required but the CAP baseball cap is authorized.
9. Weight and grooming standards do not apply to members wearing this uniform.

NOTE: Military badges and devices are not authorized on this uniform.

**Men's and Women's CAP Utility Uniform
(Senior Members and Cadets)**



NOTES:

1. Grade Insignia: Senior member officers wear embroidered grade insignia on ultramarine blue background on both sides of the collar. Senior Member NCOs wear the 3-, 3 1/2- or 4-inch (women) or 4-inch (men) sleeve chevrons centered halfway between shoulder seam and elbow when bent at 90-degree angle on the sleeve. Cadet officers wear embroidered grade insignia on ultramarine blue background worn on both sides of the collar. Cadet NCOs and Airmen wear metal chevrons on collar.
2. "Civil Air Patrol" Tape: Ultramarine blue with white letters worn centered immediately above the left breast pocket. Tape will be the width of the pocket with raw ends folded under.
3. Cloth Name Tape: Ultramarine blue with white letters, worn centered immediately above the right breast pocket (only last name will be used). Tape will be the width of the pocket with raw ends folded under.
4. CAP Aviation Badges and Specialty Insignia: Embroidered, worn 1/2-inch above the cloth "Civil Air Patrol" tape worn over the left breast pocket. If both devices are worn, aviation badges should be 1/2-inch above specialty insignia.
5. Shoulder Patch: Worn centered 1/2-inch below shoulder seam on left sleeve.
7. CAP Specialty Patches: Embroidered, worn on the lower portion of the left breast pocket between left and right edges and bottom of flap and pocket.
8. Unit Patches are worn on right breast pocket between left and right edges and bottom of flap and pocket. Other badges or patches worn in accordance with Table 6-4.
9. All white on blue insignia will have 1/8-inch of blue showing at the widest and tallest point of the insignia, except the Civil Air Patrol and name tapes.
10. White t-shirts and any style plain black shoe or boot may be worn.
11. Headgear is not required but the CAP baseball cap is authorized.
12. Weight and grooming standards do not apply to members wearing this uniform.

NOTE: Military badges and devices are not authorized on this uniform.

**Men's and Women's CAP Distinctive Field Uniform
(Senior Members and Cadets)**



Service Dress Honor Guard Uniform



Blue Short Sleeve Honor Guard Uniform

NOTES:

1. Worn same as Men's and Women's Service Dress Uniform as shown in Figures 2-2 and 2-10.
EXCEPTION: Ribbons must be worn on light-blue AF-style shirt when worn as outer garment.
2. Shoulder Cord: Silver, Army-style, worn on left shoulder next to shoulder seam.
3. Pistol Belt: White, 2 1/16-inch wide, with nickel-plated buckle and keepers.
4. Gloves: White parade gloves.
5. Ascot: White with Honor Guard patch centered 3 1/2-inches below neckband.
6. Headgear: Male service cap with cadet officer cap device and rear chinstrap.
7. Parade Rifle: Brown with white leather sling, non-operating.

Men's and Women's Honor Guard Uniform (Cadets Only)

Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard Uniform		
L I N E	Item	Description/Material
1	Coat	Standard Blue Service Uniform coat with epaulets will be worn. Either style may be worn; however, all members of the team should be the same. Coat and slacks/trousers will match in shade and material. All appropriate insignia will be worn.
2	Slacks and Trousers	Standard slacks/trousers matching the coat. Female team members will wear slacks. Slacks/trousers will be worn without the blue belt while performing.
3	White Pistol Belt and Buckle	A 2 1/16-inch white pistol belt with nickel-plated large buckle and keepers. All members except flag bearers will wear the belt.
4	Headgear	All members will wear male service cap with cadet officer cap device; in addition to the front chinstrap, a functional rear chinstrap with buckle will be worn. When performing, the rear chinstrap will be placed under the member's chin. This is a safety factor.
5	Gloves	White parade gloves will be worn when performing. Non-slip palm is recommended.
6	Shirt and Blouse	Blue Short Sleeve shirt or blouse (Tuck-in style) without tie/tab may be worn when conditions are too hot for the wear of the Service Dress Uniform coat. All appropriate insignia will be worn. Flag bearers will wear the blue service belt.
7	Socks	All members will wear plain, black socks with the Honor Guard Uniform.
8	Footwear	Low quarter (double or triple-soled authorized), high gloss or poromeric with metal horseshoe taps on heels only.
9	Outer Garments	All-weather coat or overcoat may be worn. The Lightweight Jacket may be worn to and from performances to prevent the service coat being wrinkled in travel.
10	Ascot	White ascot with Honor Guard patch centered 3 1/2-inches below neckband.
11	Shoulder Cord	Metallic silver shoulder cord (same style as CAC cords) will be worn under the epaulet at the shoulder seam. Shoulder cord should be pinned under the epaulet as well as front and back to keep cord in place during performances.
12	Parade Rifle	Brown with white leather sling, molded polystyrene, and non-operating. Wood rifles will break during the various rifle movements. BAYONETS WILL NOT BE USED.

Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard Uniform Wear Instructions and Grooming Standards.		
L I N E	Item	Instructions
1	Male Service Cap	<p>The Male Service Cap is to be worn by all members of the Honor Guard. When the cap is not worn, it is to be carried under the left arm with crown (top) toward the arm and the visor to the front. When cap is to be placed on the head, place the thumb on one side of the cap above the visor, two fingers on the top above the insignia, and the remainder of the fingers on the other side above the visor. Do not touch the visor.</p> <p>Securing the black leather rear chin strap into the “up” position: (1) Unscrew the two chrome cap buttons holding the front chin strap in position; (2) Place the rear chin strap so that the strap buckle is to the right of center when viewed from the rear; (3) Screw the chrome cap buttons into place ensuring the wings are in the up position. During a performance, the rear chinstrap will be worn down under the chin.</p> <p>Whenever you wear the all-weather coat for a ceremony, you must wear the blue rain cover over the service cap. Roll the rain cover underneath the back edges of the service cap to produce a snug fit and neat appearance. Rolling the rain cover should be done anytime you wear the service cap, regardless of performing a ceremony or not. Helmets or helmet liners will not be used.</p>
2	Service Dress Coat	<p>Iron the lapels of the coat down to ensure all buttons of the coat are displayed. When blousing (tucking) a service dress uniform coat, a minimum of two people should be used; the person being bloused (tucked), the “blousee,” and the person blousing the member, the “blouser.” Adjust the web belt to fit very tightly around the waist. The web belt will rest between the second and third button of your uniform (new uniform) or third and fourth button (old uniform) parallel to the ground all around. The belt will initially feel tight but the discomfort will diminish over time. The “blousee” should hold the belt in the approximate position where the belt will be fastened with some slack being provided for the “blouser’s” hands. The “blouser” positions his/her hands along two side seams on the back of the coat. The “blouser” will pull the excess material from the front of the uniform and fold it underneath the two side seams with the edge of the fold toward the arms. When bloused, the entire uniform will appear neat, wrinkle-free, and without bunches. The “blousee” then fastens the belt in front and checks for comfort and appearance. The “blouser” re-checks the belt and places the two keepers two-finger widths from the nickel belt buckle on both sides of the buckle.</p>
3	Shirt	<p>Worn with all appropriate insignia. The pistol belt and shoulder cord is worn as with Service Dress coat. Shirt/blouse will be well ironed using sizing with sharp creases in both sleeves including the shoulder patch. Creases must be centered on the epaulet of the shirt/blouse. No other creases are authorized.</p>
4	Shoulder Cord	<p>The shoulder cord should fit snugly along the shoulder seam of the coat. <i>(TIP: Use three large safety pins to secure the shoulder cord from underneath the coat. One should be placed on the top of the shoulder under the epaulet. The second, in the front of the coat near the opening of the armpit. The third, in the rear of the coat near the opening of the armpit.)</i> Cadet officer’s shoulder boards will be secured by sewing a piece of material to the underside of the shoulder board to form an epaulet sleeve. The coat</p>

Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard Uniform Wear Instructions and Grooming Standards.		
L I N E	Item	Instructions
		epaulet is then placed in the shoulder board sleeve.
5	Service Dress Slacks/Trousers	When sitting down in service dress slacks/trousers, be sure to roll the excess material located under the knees into a neat fold to prevent wrinkling. Female Honor Guard members will wear slacks. The trousers or slacks of the Service Dress Uniform will not be bloused nor will leggings be worn.
6	Low Quarter Shoes	Leather low quarters are the shoe of choice, but high gloss or poromeric may be worn. The shoes will be clean and well shined. Use edge dressing on the soles and heels of the shoes. Tuck the bows on the shoestrings into the shoe. Horseshoe taps will be worn on the heel of the shoe. Small (approximately 2" x 1") rectangular metal plates will be worn centered on the inside heel edge. Place rubber washers between the tap and the heel so that the tap protrudes about 1/2-inch (these are called "cheaters") as needed. Make sure the "Cheaters" are rounded on all four sides so not to destroy the trousers. All members will wear black socks. White shoelaces will not be used.
7	White Pistol Belt	The white pistol belt, with nickel hardware and buckle, should be worn during the performance only. It is to be worn very tight (should be able to put only one finger between the belt and uniform) with the nickel keepers two fingers widths from the buckle on each side.
8	White Gloves	Worn with the top of the glove just above the wrist providing a neat appearance. It may become necessary to tape the gloves. If this becomes necessary, use only white first aid tape. Plastic-dotted non-slip palm white gloves are recommended. Do not add resin or any other substance to the glove as this becomes a safety hazard by making the rifle very slippery. When not worn, fold with palm out, place under web belt so that top of gloves fold over the top of the belt. Gloves are to be removed from the hands after performance and placed under the belt.
9	Ascot	A white ascot with a center crease. The Honor Guard patch (creased) will be centered 1/2-inch from the bottom of the fold after folding the neckband over twice. The ascot will be pulled and pinned at the bottom through the center crease to the T-shirt with a safety pin. Also pin the ascot on each side with additional safety pins. Secure the ascot behind the neck so you cannot place the little finger between the material and the back of the neck. Pin or tape with white tape, if necessary, to prevent the ends showing outside of the uniform coat. The use of shirt garters (attached to the ascot and the trousers/slacks) is permitted as long as they do not show or will not come undone during the performance.
10	All-Weather Coat	The coat will be wrinkle free. The belt loops should be removed from the coat for blousing purposes.
11	Colors Element	Flag bearers wear flag slings instead of the white pistol belts. The flag sling shoulder straps will go under the epaulets. The trousers or slacks of the Service Dress Uniform will not be bloused. Leggings, helmets, helmet liners, or white shoelaces will not be used.
12	Grooming Standards	All grooming standards will be met. The only jewelry accepted is small silver ball earrings (or none at all) for the females. Watches are not to be worn while in Honor Guard Uniform.